

NSC BRIEFING

17 July 1957

MIDDLE EAST DEVELOPMENTS

I. Pro-Western elements in the Middle East have expressed their concern over a weakening of the recently-formed pro-Western front of Iraq, Jordan, and Saudi Arabia.

A. Among the moves tending to diminish Nasr's isolation are:

1. Visit of Egyptian General Amer to King Saud in an attempt to smooth over difficulties between Saudi Arabia and Egypt.
2. Order of Iraqi prime minister Jawdat for ending of jamming of Egyptian and Syrian broadcasts.

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4. Iraqi decision to reverse its policy of non-participation in Egyptian and Syrian trade fairs.

B. However, diplomatic impasse between Syria and Saudi Arabia was apparently not resolved by partial Syrian apology.

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